(c) and (d) Safety Directorate of Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) is actively involved in monitoring, review and reporting aspects of various Railway Safety works being implemented. Railway safety is of prime concern to the Railways, hence is a continuous process. With the efforts being made, there has been continuous improvement in the safety performance of the Railways.

Compensation for land acquired for Bogibeel Project

3006. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that compensation for land which was acquired for the rail-cum-road approach to the Bogibeel bridge on the north bank from Sissiborgaon to Dembuk Kareng, is still pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps Government have taken for settlement of land compensation, which is pending in the Sissiborgaon Circle Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) The land required by Railways on the North Bank side of Bogibeel Bridge is being acquired by District Collector (DC) Dhemaji. The full funds as per the estimate/demand raised by DC/ Dhemaji have been deposited for disbursements to the land owners. DC/ Dhemaji has informed that full payments towards land acquired have been made in 170 cases and for some other cases 80% payment has been made and balance final payment is under process.

The matter is being pursued in the monthly meeting with DC/Dhemaji at field level and the quarterly meeting with Chief Secretary, Government of Assam at State level.

Pending Rail Projects

3007. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pending railway projects are worth an astounding Rs. 47,000 crores (till March, 2005) and the longest pendancy is for a railway for which the budgetary allocation was first made in 1972;